



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton  
National Park

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## Grand Teton National Park News Release

### **Motorcycle Accident East of Moran Junction Results in a Fatality**

Grand Teton National Park rangers responded to a motorcycle accident one-quarter mile east of Moran Junction on Highway 26/287 at approximately 1:50 p.m., Monday afternoon, August 21. Daniel C. Cheek, a 64-year-old resident of Seabrook, Texas, was driving his motorcycle eastbound from Moran Junction along with a group of friends, who were also on motorcycles. For unknown reasons, Cheek's motorcycle left the road and dropped down a steep embankment. Cheek sustained critical and traumatic injuries as a result of the accident, and was provided advanced emergency medical care on site. Despite emergency interventions, he was pronounced dead at the scene.

After leaving the roadway, Cheek dropped off a 25-foot slope and traveled about 100 linear feet before ending up partially submerged in a side channel of the Buffalo Fork River. Cheek's traveling companions and a passer-by truck driver saw a dust cloud on the side of the road in the aftermath of the accident and stopped to investigate what had happened. Upon seeing Cheek lying in the river channel, someone in the group quickly made their way down the embankment to where he came to rest and rolled him out of the water. Cheek was unconscious, but breathing at the time he was removed from the water; however, he stopped breathing shortly after. CPR was initiated by people at the scene and advanced medical care was subsequently provided by emergency responders once they arrived on site, but he was unable to be revived.

Emergency response to the motorcycle accident occurred while another major emergency response was underway for a serious head-on vehicle collision at Willow Flats near Jackson Lake Junction, less than five miles away. This head-on collision involved ten injured people, and required multiple ambulance transports and two helicopter evacuations. Details regarding the head-on vehicle accident will be available on Tuesday, August 22.

In addition to the response by Grand Teton National Park rangers, Wyoming Highway Patrol, Jackson Hole Fire and EMS personnel, and Teton County Search and Rescue staff – who were responding to the head-on vehicle collision at Willow Flats – diverted to assist with the motorcycle accident east of Moran Junction.

The investigation into the motorcycle accident is being led by the Wyoming Highway Patrol with assistance from Grand Teton National Park.

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